



The Daniel Jeremy Silver Digital Collection

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MS-4962: Daniel Jeremy Silver Papers, Series II, 1955-2002, undated.

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Silver family correspondence, Father Thomas S. Acker, President of Wheeling Jesuit College, Daniel Jeremy Silver and Adele Silver regarding dedication of room to Rabbis Abba Hillel and Daniel J. Silver at Wheeling Jesuit, 1989-1990.

OCTOBER 4, 1989

DR. THOMAS S. ACKER, PRESIDENT
WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE
WHEELING, WEST VA 26003

DEAR FATHER ACKER:

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND NOTE OF SEPTEMBER
25. I WOULD LOVE TO MEET WITH YOU AND GET TO KNOW
MORE ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE PLANNING. I UNDERSTAND YOU
WILL MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A TIME, AND LOOK
FORWARD TO MEETING YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR NEW YEAR WISHES WHOSE SPIRIT, I,
OF COURSE, RECIPROCATE. KEEP WELL.

SINCERELY,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:MP



WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE

Office of the President

September 25, 1989

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you for your note which I received yesterday. I knew you were busy at this time because of the marriages. It was my intention just to make my initial contact with you and then follow this with a more personal visit.

My letter was perhaps not clear. It is not our intention to set up a study center in your father and mother's honor. As you well mentioned, most of this is already fully developed in The Temple archives.

Our intention is simply to dedicate the main lecture room in our facility to your father and mother. A sense of history is most important for young men and women. Likewise, it would be helpful to the small Jewish community in Wheeling to have a public lecture room dedicated to two of their own, one a true native of Wheeling.

Allow me to just leave that clarification with you until we are able to meet sometime in late September or October. I will make an appointment prior to my coming. In the meantime, I wish you God's blessing.

Cordially,

Thomas S. Acker, S.J.
President

TSA/lf

Happy New Year!

SEPTEMBER 19, 1989

FATHER THOMAS S. ACKER, PRESIDENT
WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE
WHEELING, WEST VA 26003

DEAR FATHER ACKER:

I AM IN RECEIPT OF THE NOTE WHICH YOU WROTE AFTER YOUR
ABORTED VISIT TO ME IN CLEVELAND. YOU CAME AT A VERY BUSY
TIME--TWO SONS WERE MARRIED WITHIN FIVE WEEKS, BUT THINGS
ARE NOW CALMING DOWN AND I READ WITH INTEREST YOUR PROPOSAL.

I APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST IN MY FATHER AND I ENDORSE THE
IDEA OF A STUDY CENTER IN HIS HONOR, BUT THERE IS REALLY
FINANCIALLY VERY LITTLE THAT WE CAN DO TOWARDS YOUR GOAL
EXCEPT TO BE COOPERATIVE AND HELPFUL. THE TEMPLE ALREADY
HAS A FULL ARCHIVES OF HIS WRITINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE AND
IN TERMS OF ~~OUR~~ PRIORITIES THERE IS VERY LITTLE THAT CAN BE
GAINED BY A WHEELING-BASED CENTER, BUT I WILL HELP IN ANY
WAY I CAN. KEEP WELL.

SINCERELY,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:MP



WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE

Office of the President

September 14, 1989

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple Branch
26000 Shaker Boulevard
Beachwood, OH 44122

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Last Monday I stopped by the Temple Branch to meet Marie. There I also bought three copies of the book about your father. One of these I wish to present to the Temple in Wheeling, where your father had his first congregation in 1915. The second copy will go to Dr. Sam Goldberg of Youngstown who is a personal friend of mine. The third book I am reading and it will then be placed in the library at Wheeling Jesuit College.

Several months ago I conceived the idea of establishing the Rabbi Silver Lecture Room at Wheeling Jesuit College. I had learned that your father had his first congregation in Wheeling and it was from this congregation that he took his wife and your mother. It seemed fitting that Wheeling Jesuit College should permanently honor both your father and your mother. Your father was one of the principal architects of the modern state of Israel. Your mother was a native of Wheeling and I feel sure that in her own quiet and gracious way, she further molded and supported your distinguished father.

You and I are basically contemporaries, since I was born a year after yourself. I am a native of Cleveland, Ohio and my mother and two sisters still reside there. I return often to see my mother, who is now in a nursing home. It is my hope on one of my subsequent visits to make an appointment to meet you. I never had the occasion of meeting your father, but only to hear of him.

Last June I wrote a letter to Mr. Sam Miller of Forest City Enterprises, whom I know personally. I described the room at Wheeling Jesuit College and my plan to dedicate it to your father and your mother. Last week I also talked with Dr. Goldberg and to Mr. William Cafaro in Youngstown and they promised their financial support. Based on the renovation costs of the building, the special appointment of this room, it is my desire to raise \$100,000.

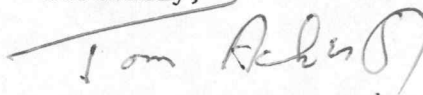
Wheeling Jesuit College has always had close ties with the Jewish community in Wheeling. Rabbi Daniel Lowy, the current Rabbi, is aware of our interest in this project and certainly supports it. His own small congregation is not particularly affluent, but will certainly be helpful.

Let me enclose for you a bit of information about Wheeling Jesuit College. It is one of the 28 Jesuit colleges in the United States and is basically similar to, but smaller than, John Carroll University. We are now recognized, along with Bethany College, as the most academically challenging and rigorous college in West Virginia. That position in higher education within the state of West Virginia, makes it especially fitting for your father who was noted for his learning and his scholarship.

I know this has been a very busy time for you with the weddings taking place in your family. Indeed, my sister, Pat Basista, lives on Lyman Circle, which is just a house or two from the family of your son's wife.

Let me end this letter with the intention of visiting you soon. I would hope that you would find this wish to honor your father and mother in Wheeling both acceptable and congenial.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tom Acker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Thomas S. Acker, S.J.
President

TSA/lf

Enc

THE RABBI SILVER LECTURE ROOM

Wheeling Jesuit College is seeking a sponsor in Cleveland for the Rabbi Silver Lecture Room. This lecture room, already completed, is our most prestigious lecture hall and is used for all guest lecture appearances. It is located in our main classroom and science complex which was just totally renovated at a cost of \$4.2 million.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver spent almost his entire rabbinical career at the Temple in Cleveland, Ohio. It is not well known that Rabbi Silver's first and only other pulpit was in Wheeling, West Virginia. After ordination at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in 1915, he was elected on June 22, 1915 to the Eoff Street Temple (now Temple Shalom) in Wheeling. He served in this post until Spring of 1917 when he went to the Temple in Cleveland.

Wheeling Jesuit College has always had a strong affiliation with the small Jewish Community of Wheeling. Most recently, the entire congregation was invited to attend our graduation ceremonies where Professor Elie Wiesel, Nobel Peace Prize winner, was awarded an honorary doctoral degree. Three weeks before the graduation, Professor Walter Renn of Wheeling Jesuit College, directed a two-day Holocaust program at which more than 1,000 people participated. Rabbi Daniel Lowy is a personal friend of Fr. Tom Acker and several prominent staff members of the College are of Rabbi Lowy's congregation. Mrs. Gail Mendelson, Director of College Relations, and Jewish, and Fr. Tom Acker are both natives of Cleveland, Ohio.

Colleges and universities are historically preservers of culture and tradition. It would be most fitting to honor and commemorate Rabbi Silver in Wheeling, West Virginia where he began his rabbinical career. Rabbi Silver is noted for his Jewish learning and scholarship and principally as an architect of modern Israel. It would be appropriate to honor Rabbi Silver at Wheeling Jesuit College by naming the principal lecture hall in his honor. A bronze plaque would so mark the occasion, and depending upon the wishes of the donor, a yearly lecture or lecture series would be established and endowed.

It should be noted that Rabbi Silver spent only two years in Wheeling--1915-1917. However, during this time he became acquainted with the Horkheimer family and he returned in 1923 to marry Virginia Horkheimer. It is my understanding that the previous rabbi, Rabbi Morris Lazon, married Virginia's sister.

The cost of sponsorship for this room is determined almost entirely by its actual cost of renovation and appointment. The room is 48 x 25 feet and has theatre type seating. It is equipped with overhead TV color projection, satellite transmission, computer capabilities, a fixed VCR, and oak trimming.



WHEELING
JESUIT COLLEGE

This is a black and white aerial photograph of the Wheeling Jesuit College campus. The campus is situated on a hillside, with a river or stream flowing along the bottom left edge. The main campus area is characterized by several large, multi-story brick buildings, likely dormitories and academic halls, arranged in a somewhat circular or semi-circular pattern. There are several parking lots with cars visible. A large, open grassy area, possibly a sports field or quad, occupies the lower right portion of the image. A tennis court is visible in the bottom center. The campus is surrounded by dense trees and vegetation. In the background, a residential neighborhood and a highway are visible. The text 'WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE' is overlaid in the upper left corner, accompanied by a stylized logo consisting of three vertical bars of increasing height.

WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE at a Glance

Type of College: Coeducational, independent liberal arts and sciences

Founded: 1954

Enrollment: 1,200

Location: Wheeling, West Virginia, on the Ohio River is one hour's drive from Pittsburgh. Rand McNally's "Places Rated Almanac" rates Wheeling as the safest of the nation's major metropolitan areas. The College with its suburban campus is even more secure.

Student-Faculty Ratio: 12 to 1

Average Class Size: 22

Financial Aid: More than 85% of our students receive financial assistance in grants, loans, scholarships and work opportunity. The average "aid package" is \$6,400.

On-Campus Housing: Available to students who wish to live on campus.

Calendar: 2 semesters and Summer School

Degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Business Administration, Master of Arts in Science and Mathematics Education, Master of Arts in Religious Education.

Admissions: Selective; students are accepted on a rolling basis.

Major Fields:

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business:
Accounting
Management
Marketing• Health/Medicine:
Nursing
Nuclear Medicine Technology
Physical Therapy
Respiratory Therapy
Pre-medicine, Pre-dentistry
Pre-veterinary medicine• Sciences:
Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Mathematics
Mathematics Education
Physics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liberal Arts:
Criminal Justice
English Literature
French
History
International Studies
Philosophy
Political and Economic Philosophy
Political Science
Pre-law
Professional Writing
Psychology
Spanish
Romance Languages
Theology• Engineering:
Industrial Engineering
Engineering (3/2) with Case
Western Research University
Army ROTC Available
Army ROTC |
|--|--|

Geographic Representation: Students from 20 states and 8 countries.

Graduates: Assisted by a highly effective Career Planning and Placement Office, graduates find quality placement in employment and graduate schools.

Jesuit Network: A Jesuit degree is recognized around the world. There are 27 other Jesuit schools in America. Among them, Boston College, Georgetown, and Marquette Universities. All share educational values that include challenging scholarship and ethical values.

For more information or to arrange a campus visit, call (304) 243-2359 or 800-624-6992. For financial planning assistance, call (304) 243-2304.



WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE

JANUARY 16, 1990

FATHER THOMAS S. ACKER, PRESIDENT
WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003

DEAR FATHER ACKER:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY ON
MY HUSBAND'S DEATH. HIS SECRETARY, MARIE PLUTH,
HAS GIVEN ME THE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN YOU AND
MY HUSBAND, AND I TOO EXTEND MY WARM GOOD WISHES
FOR SUCCESS IN YOUR ENDEAVOR.

CORDIALLY,

ADELE Z. SILVER

AZS:MP



WHEELING JESUIT COLLEGE

Office of the President

January 8, 1990

Mrs. Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Mrs. Silver:

We have never met, but my path has crossed yours and that of your family several times. First of all, I want to express to you my deepest sympathy on the passing of your husband, Rabbi Daniel Silver. We had been in correspondence twice regarding the naming of a room at Wheeling Jesuit College in memory of his father and mother. I had hoped to be able to visit him, but his sickness prevented that. Now he has passed into the hands of God and we pray that he rests in peace.

My own home was in Cleveland, Ohio. One of my sisters lives at 2 Lyman Circle, immediately adjacent to a family whose daughter married this summer your son. You also probably realize that Rabbi Daniel's father had his only other congregation in Wheeling, West Virginia, and his wife Virginia came from this city.

I simply wanted to write you this note expressing my sympathy on the passing of an era that belonged to father and son in the leadership of The Temple. Together and separately, they made an impact upon the city of Cleveland and, certainly within the Jewish community. I hope that some day we are able to meet, especially as we continue to pursue the opportunity of dedicating a significant room at Wheeling Jesuit College to Rabbi Hillel Silver. Father and son are now together, with a vision that is far expanded over that which we possess.

Cordially,

Thomas S. Acker, S.J.
President

TSA/lf

304-243-2233 ✓ 8/89

I CALLED FATHER ACKER AND TOLD HIM THAT RABBI SILVER WAS SERIOUSLY ILL, CONFINED TO HIS HOME, AND WILL NOT ABLE TO MEET WITH HIM ON DECEMBER 15. TOLD HIM I GAVE THE CORRESPONDENCE TO THE FAMILY AND IF HE CAN UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE SITUATION AND BEAR WITH US UNTIL SOMEONE IN THE FAMILY CAN GET BACK TO HIM.

HE IS APPARENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF RAISING MONEY FOR THIS MEMORIAL. HE TELLS ME HE IS COMING TO CLEVELAND TO SEE MORRIE WEISS, CEO OF AMERICAN GREETINGS. MORRIE'S GOOD FRIEND (AND FATHER ACKER'S) IS JOSEPH ANTONINI, CEO OF K MART AND A NATIVE OF WEST VIRGINIA. JOE WROTE TO MORRIE THAT FATHER ACKER WAS COMING TO CLEVELAND TO SEE HIM AND TO PRESENT HIM WITH AN IDEA WHICH IS THIS ROOM AT THE COLLEGE, SO FATHER ACKER SAID MORRIE CANNOT REFUSE HIM. ALL OF WHICH IS TO SAY THAT HE WILL EVENTUALLY GET BACK TO THE FAMILY OR YOU TO HIM SO THAT SOMEONE IN THE FAMILY CAN BE AT THE DEDICATION AT WHEELING WHENEVER THAT HAPPENS.

* Please - Pls. keep this, so we can respond appropriately if such an occasion is scheduled

File

DEAR ADELE,

I THINK THE ENCLOSED ~~ILL~~ IS SELF-EXPLANATORY. FATHER ACKER CALLED THIS WEEK TO SAY HE WILL BE IN CLEVELAND ON DECEMBER 15 AND WOULD LIKE TO MEET RABBI SILVER IN THE MORNING SOMETIME SINCE HE HAS AN APPOINTMENT ON THE WEST SIDE IN THE AFTERNOON. HE SPOKE WITH MARTHA AND KNOWS THE RABBI IS ILL BUT OBVIOUSLY NOT HOW ILL HE REALLY IS. SO I PASS THIS ON TO YOU. FATHER ACKER WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A CALL BACK ON THIS. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

M

*This is the original correspondence —
I did not make copies*